



1964 Round 18 Saturday 22nd August Kogarah Oval



St George 37

def.

Western Suburbs 10

Graeme LANGLANDS
 Johnny KING
 Reg GASNIER
 Billy SMITH
 Brian JAMES
 Brian CLAY
 George EVANS
 Johnny RAPER
 Norm PROVAN (c)
 Dick HUDDART
 Kevin RYAN
 Peter ARMSTRONG
 Monty PORTER

Fullback
Wing
Centre
Centre
Wing
Five-eighth
Half
Lock
Second Row
Second Row
Front Row
Hooker
Front Row

Ken BRAY
 John MOWBRAY
 John ARMSTRONG
 Gil MacDOUGALL
 Peter DIMOND
 Rob McGUINNESS
 Don MALONE
 Kevin SMYTH
 Denis CULPAN
 Jim CODY
 Denis MEANEY
 Noel KELLY (c)
 Ken OWENS



Tries

Billy SMITH (3)
 Brian CLAY (2)
 Brian JAMES
 Johnny KING

Rob McGUINNESS
 Gil MacDOUGALL

Goals

Graeme LANGLANDS (8)

Ken BRAY (2)

Match Description

St George: Full-back: G Langlands; three-quarters: J King, R Gasnier, W Smith, B James; five-eighth: B Clay; half: G Evans; forwards: J Raper, N Provan (c), R Huddart, K Ryan, P Armstrong, M Porter

Western Suburbs: Full-back: K Bray; three-quarters: J Mowbray, J Armstrong, G MacDougall, P Dimond; five-eighth: R McGuinness; half: D Malone; forwards: K Smyth, D Culpan, J Cody, D Meaney, N Kelly (c), K Owens **Referee: T Erickson (The Sun 22nd August 1964)**

Western Suburbs Rugby League players yesterday predicted St George would win the premiership. They said this after coming off the field following their 37-10 drubbing by St George at Kogarah. Praise for the St George team was lavish – and justified. Wests had taken one of their worst thrashings for years. St George’s first half display yesterday, when they scored five tries to lead 25-0 at half-time, was a magnificent example of precision football. Great speed in the three-quarters, power in the forwards and brilliance around the rucks, with lock Johnny Raper in superb form, was the foundation of their crushing display. Coupled with this was thorough backing up of the man with the ball. “That’s the beat St George team I have played against.” Wests’ captain Noel Kelly said. “They will win this premiership by so many points it won’t be funny.” “A fantastic team,” Wests’ coach Jack Fitzgerald commented. “Their first half play was the best I have ever seen from them,” he added. After three minutes St George’s Brian James, a late replacement on the wing, pulled out of a tackle and scored near the corner. St George scored another four tries in a 15-minute period before half-time, in a bewildering display of class football. Test half, Billy Smith, playing at centre, scored three of the tries and will undoubtedly remain in that position for the remainder of the season. ... Raper, however, deserved the main plaudit of the match. His work around the rucks was brilliant. St George lost left-winger Johnny King with an injured shoulder and Wests their big prop Denis Meaney with an injured leg. ... **(The Sun-Herald 23rd August 1964)**

St George humbled Western Suburbs with a powerhouse display at Kogarah yesterday to win the Rugby League minor premiership. St George left no doubt that it means to take its ninth successive League title. Wests were blotted out of the match from the start. St George had built up a 25-0 lead at half-time. The crowd of more than 13,000 thrilled to the unstoppable might of the St George machine as it swept downfield to finish the match with seven tries and eight goals. Billy Smith revelled in his new centre role, notching three tries and playing a prominent part in others. Smith, Australia’s Test half-back against France, is not unaccustomed to centre. St George looked as though it would stage a repeat of the 36-0 drubbing it handed Parramatta last week, but it seemed to ease up late in the second half. In that period Wests scored two converted tries. ... A feature of the match was the way in which John Armstrong contained Reg Gasnier. Armstrong gave Gasnier no chance to get moving but this also allowed other S George backs more latitude. Gasnier was spotted by several other Wests’ players, thus leaving Smith to run almost at will. **(Sunday Mirror 23rd August 1964)**

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Notes: John Mowbray returned for this match after injury and Rob McGuinness moved to five-eighth. Denis Culpan played his one and only game in First Grade, replacing John Hayes. Denis Meaney was forced off with an injured leg after a crushing Raper tackle. Billy Smith, in the centres, had an outstanding match as did most of the St George players as Wests were demolished by an outstanding team. The one bright spot was how John Armstrong was able to bottle up Reg Gasnier. An injury-plagued season was finally over for Wests.